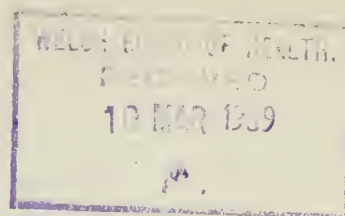


12/14



URBAN DISTRICT OF HOLYHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year

1957

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Incorporating the Report

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

THE GENERAL PURPOSES AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1957

Chairman: Councillor W.D.M. Ankers

MEMBERS

Alderman Robert Roberts, J.P., Alderman A. Efan Jones, M.B.E., J.P.,
Councillor Richard Gray, J.P., Councillor John Roberts,
" D.O. Green, " C. Roberts
" R.D. Hughes " Edward Jones
" Hugh Jones, J.P. " D.M. Williams
" Richard Parry, " J. Morris Williams
" G.C. Williams, " W.D.M. Ankers
" Richard Jones, " David Williams
" John Lewis, J.P., " Mrs. M. Hughes, B.E.M.,
" H.P. Jones, " Leslie Jones
" Lt. Cmdr, J.F.H.R. Hastings-Stroud.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Richard Gray, J.P.,

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health: G.H.B. Roberts, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.,
L.M., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector : A. Maldwyn Jones, F.A.P.H.I.,
and Imported Food Inspector: M.R.S.H., Certificate in Meat &
Food Inspection, Royal Society
of Health.

Additional Public Health J.R. Jones, Cert S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Inspector; Cert. In Meat & Food Inspection.
Royal Society of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee,
Holyhead Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report upon the health of your District for the year 1957. As previously the report incorporates the Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector.

The year under review has not produced any significant statistical changes indicating either a depreciation in, or any unanticipated betterment of the Public Health state of your District. For examples, (on a comparative basis with the preceding year), - the population shows a slight increase of 80 persons to the current figure of 10,330. The Rateable Value compares as £94,590 to the earlier £97,891 - whereas the Penny Rate production has increased by about £164 to £358. On the other hand, due to the coming to fruition of the Council's house building programme, the number of dwelling houses has increased by 290 to the current 3,449. This housing betterment will, of course show Public Health benefit dividends progressively in coming years rather than immediately.

The total number of Births has virtually remained static (an increase of but 2), and therefore the corrected Birth Rate remains at very slightly over 16 per thousand comparing with 16.1 for England & Wales as a whole.

Death occurrences have shown a diminution (of 9) to 148;- the current comparative rates having been 14.2 (as to 15.3 for 1956), for the county 12.4 and for England and Wales 11.5

An analysis of the causes of death does not show any particular variation that is of environmental import. The cancer group has increased by one to 23 and the cardiac group has advanced by nine to 50.

Tuberculosis has produced one fatality as compared with the earlier four.

As will be seen from the appropriate table, infectious diseases have claimed but few victims - a single notification of scarlet fever (now clinically a relatively timid disease, but still legally notifiable) - and one notification of paralytic poliomyelitis that occurred in a visitor to the town (with no sequelae).

Tuberculosis was notified 28 times (4 non-respiratory) as compared with 26 notifications in the previous year. Incidentally, the local health authority provided 46 vaccinations against tuberculosis as compared with the former 27.

As for refuse disposal future siting, this problem is still unresolved. In answer to many who feel that Holyhead's coastline position points towards barging out to sea, the Senior Public Health Inspector details the now generally accepted contra-indications. To these it might be well to add that, although our trade winds are from the south-west (i.e. out into the Irish sea) yet, in recent winters, there have been an unprecedented number of days when strong winds (often of gale force) have blown from the North and North West (i.e. landwards).

Although, by Parliamentary enactment, the County Council now created also the County Water Authority, is charged with providing the Urban Area with a satisfactory water supply, yet this sanitary authority continues to accept any complaints forthcoming from its townspeople, for onward transmission.

Copies of the laboratory water reports are received by the Council's officers. Of the 160 sample reports received, no less than 36 were in classes of purity other than Class I. In fact 18 were in that class that is defined as suspicious and unsatisfactory for chlorinated water. There were 9 reports in the fourth class (unsatisfactory for un-chlorinated water). In the preceding year there had been one sample report in this lowest class.

It is pleasing to note that the two former manufacturing ice-cream dealers that presented an unsatisfactory record earlier, have now ceased their own production. The remaining manufacturer has maintained his former 100% Grade I standard. Fortunately the remaining resident dealers, 38 in number, sell a prepacked commodity manufactured by firms of national renown. All the more disturbing is it to note that with some apprehension that not only are itinerant dealers operating in the urban area from without the County, but that one of their samples produced a Grade IV standard and was therefore liable to negative the otherwise improved picture should that itinerant vender import the very infection that otherwise would not anticipate from the statistical picture now reached. But, as the Senior Public Health Inspector notes, these mobile sellers, potentially operating on "sell and run" principles, are most difficult to corner for sampling and control purposes.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and members for their interest and support and the Clerk, Public Health Inspector and other officers of the Council for their willing co-operation and help. And incidentally it may not be inappropriate to reflect on the scope and ramifications of the Department of a Public Health Inspector under modern conditions of accumulating legislation, - as is shown by the picture of the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G^HB? Roberts,

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	850
Population (Registrar General's mid 1957 estimate)			10,330
Rateable value	...	...	£94,590
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	£358
Number of Rateable Premises		...	4,000
i. Dwelling Houses		3,449	
ii. Farm Houses		10	
iii. Business Premises		541	

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births (Actual Occurrences)

	<u>1956</u>			<u>1957</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	77	76	153	88	66	154
Illegitimate	5	5	10	7	4	11
	<u>82</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>165</u>

The Birth Comparability factor is 1.00.

Birth Rates (total)

The Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population = 16.0

The Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 population = 16.0

The Crude Birth Rate for Anglesey, 16.1; England & Wales, 16.1.

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births (live & still) = 23.7.
The Rate for 1956 was 29.8. The stillbirth rate for Anglesey was 27.9; England & Wales, 22.0.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population = 0.3. The rate for Anglesey was 0.46; England & Wales, 0.37.

Deaths (total)

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
79	69	148
<u>79</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>148</u>

The Death Comparability factor is 0.99.

The Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population = 14.3.
The Death Rate for Anglesey was 14.6; England & Wales, 11.5.

The Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population = 14.2; Anglesey, 12.4.

Maternal Deaths

Nil.

Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	1	2
	—	—	—
	2	3	5
	=	=	=

The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births = 30.3.
The Infant Mortality Rate for Anglesey was 23.9.; England and Wales, 23.1.

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	1	1
	—	—	—
	0	2	2
	=	=	=

The Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births = 12.1.
The Neo-natal Mortality Rate for Anglesey was 13.0; England and Wales, 16.0.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)

Causes of Death		M	F
1.	Tuberculosis, other ...	1	0
2.	Syphilitic disease ...	0	1
3.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	3	4
4.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	0
5.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	2
6.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	0	1
7.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	4	4
8.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	16
9.	Coronary disease, angina ...	10	7
10.	Hypertension with heart disease..	1	1
11.	Other heart diseases ...	14.	17
12.	Other circulatory disease ...	4	3
13.	Influenza ...	0	1
14.	Pneumonia ...	3	1
15.	Bronchitis ...	12	1
16.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0
17.	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	0	1
18.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2	0
19.	Congenital malformations ...	1	1
20.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	6
21.	All other accidents ...	1	2
Total		79	69

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (excluding tuberculosis)

Table showing cases notified during the year, classified in age groups.

Disease	Under 1	1 yr	2yr	3yr	4yr	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Tuberculosis

Notifications of Tuberculosis were as follows:-

Age	Sex	Respiratory or Non-respiratory
3	M	Respiratory
4	F	"
4	F	"
5	M	"
13	F	Non-respiratory
14	M	Respiratory
16	M	Non-respiratory
18	F	Respiratory
19	M	"
22	M	"
22	F	Non-respiratory
30	F	Respiratory
33	M	"
33	M	"
33	M	"
37	F	"
38	M	"
40	M	"
40	M	"
41	M	"
45	M	"
49	M	Non-respiratory
53	M	Respiratory
53	M	"
53	M	"
54	M	"
60	M	"
69	M	"

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

These services are provided by the County Council and by General Medical Practitioners in the District. The following figures are quoted by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

A total of 78 were vaccinated for the first time during the year. There were no re-vaccinations.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. vaccination is carried out by the Chest Physician in collaboration with the County Medical Officer and his staff. The scheme provides for the vaccination of new-born infants born into tuberculous households and of tuberculin-negative contacts of known cases. During 1957, 46 such vaccinations were carried out in the District.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

A total number of 93 children were immunised against Diphtheria and 67 were immunised against Whooping Cough.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

It was not necessary during the year to make application for a Court Order under Section 47 of the Act for the removal to other accommodation of any person physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions without proper care and attention.

One burial, at a cost of £14. 13. 6d., was undertaken by the Council, under Section 50 of the Act.

By arrangement with the Caernarvonshire and Anglesey Hospital Management Committee, the Mortuary at the Stanley Sailors' Hospital is available on a fee paying basis for the reception of dead bodies, and it was used four times at the expense of the Council, at a cost of £3. 18. 0d.

CAMPING SITES AND CARAVANS

Camping and caravanning is not a problem in the Urban Area.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are four Female Public Conveniences, four Male Public Conveniences and two Urinals. It is considered that Conveniences consisting only of urinal accommodation, without roofs, whilst a useful accessory, are primitive according to modern amenity standards and should be replaced by adequate roofed Conveniences having water closets and urinals. The condition of the Conveniences, especially during the Summer time peak use period, is a source of continual critical comment by both residents and visitors. It is not possible to cope with the obscene defacement of the walls, in the absence of a full time attendant at each Convenience, without structural work, such as glazed tiling of walls, which whilst expensive, is the best hygienically acceptable remedy. There are two aspects to the foul condition of the accommodation, falling broadly into mis-use by the public, and inadequate cleansing by the Council, spread over the total period of use, which does not co-incide with the normal working hours of the staff.

It is pleasing to note that consideration was given by the Council to the replacement of existing Conveniences in Victoria Square by modern Male and Female Conveniences. The present Male Convenience is extremely inadequate, and a continual source of nuisance.

The Council has been concerned with the crude and inadequate sanitary Conveniences at the Park since 1953, and the position remains unaltered, even though improvements were approved at one time, but not proceeded with due to withholding of loan sanction.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Smoke pollution of the atmosphere is not the public health problem that it is in the industrial areas, and no smoke nuisance was observed, or complained about, arising at steam-raising or industrial plant. The Clean Air Act, 1956, was passed on the 5th July, 1956, and the following provisions became operative on 31st December, 1956 :-

- (1) Local Authorities authorised to institute smoke control areas.
- (2) Local Authorities may make bye-laws requiring new buildings to be equipped with smokeless heating and cooking equipment.
- (3) All new furnaces (except domestic) must be smokeless so far as practicable.
- (4) Height of new industrial chimneys will require Local Authority approval.
- (5) Colliery owners must prevent emission of fumes and smoke from spoilbanks.

RESTRICTION ON DEALING IN RAGS

No contravention of Section 154 of the Public Health Act, 1936 was observed.

FACTORIES

- 2 -

The position at the end of the year was as shown in the prescribed form reproduced below, and some 78 visits were made to 28 premises resulting in the remedying of three defects in sanitary conveniences.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948 - FORM 572 (Revised)

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	5	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	64	3
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	9	9	nil
<u>TOTAL</u> :	44	78	3

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u> :	3	3	-	-

OUTWORKERS' LIST - SECTIONS 110 and 111 - FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number of Outworkers employed in making, altering, etc. - Wearing apparel : 1.

The work undertaken is summarised on the form prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the Financial Year 1956/57 :-

	Local Auth.	<u>Type of Property</u> <u>Non-Agricultural</u>		Total of Cols, 1,2, and 3.	Agriculture
		Dwelling Houses (including Cl.Houses)	All Other (including Business Premises)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) No. of properties in Local Authority's District.	5	3,449	536	3,990	10
(2) No. of properties inspected as a result of :-					
(a) Notification	-	128	35	163	1
(b) Survey under the Act	5	19	11	35	-
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose	-	451	146	597	-
(3) Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	10	847	587	1,444	2
(4) No. of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) which were found to be infested by :-					
(a) Rats - Minor	1	44	16	61	1
(b) Mice - Minor	1	32	9	42	-
(5) No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority.	2	76	25	103	-
(6) Total treatments carried out including re-treatments.	-	92	32	124	1
(7) No. of notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act :-					
(a) Treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
(8) No. of cases in which default action was. taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-

The town's sewerage system was last given the routine Ministry prescribed annual treatment for rat destruction in 1953, but the opinion is held that treatment of known infested sections of sewer, in association with the control of surface infestation, is sufficient.

It is the custom for the British Transport Commission to undertake their own rat control work on shipping, and at port premises, the favoured method being rat catching, but no rats were handed in for submission to laboratory examination for determination of plague infection.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND PEST INFESTATION

A summary is submitted of the action taken for disinfection and disinfection of premises :-

<u>Disease or Infestation</u>	<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>Private Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Tuberculosis	17	17	34	68
Fleas	1	1	2	4
Bugs	1	-	1	2
Ants	5	5	10	20
Cockroaches	2	2	4	8

The Medical Officer of Health notified the Public Health Inspector that one person on holiday in the district had been reported as a case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis, but no positive action was considered necessary in this instance.

In infectious cases of tuberculosis the bedding is either voluntarily destroyed or steam sterilised at the expense of the Local Authority, and this was done on two occasions at a cost of £3. 13. 6d. in disinfecting fees.

Disinfection and disinfection are carried out by spraying a germicidal solution in the former, and an insecticidal solution in the latter.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE DISPOSAL

A fresh approach made to the Valley Rural District Council for co-operation in seeking a suitable site for controlled tipping of refuse, was well received, and a number of constructive joint meetings of Rural and Urban representatives finally culminated in agreement on reclaiming marshy land at Glan Gors, on the A.5 road entering the town, but it was later considered prudent not to pursue this project in view of the nature of the soil, and drainage difficulties.

In this connection, reference is made to the oft repeated text-book statement that barging to sea is a recognised form of refuse disposal.

In 1928 the following towns were reputed to be disposing of some refuse by barging to sea :-

Liverpool;	Sunderland;	Tynemouth;	Plymouth;
Southampton;	Gateshead;	Middlesborough;	

By 1938, Sunderland, Tynemouth, Plymouth and Gateshead, were known to have discontinued this method, and an inquiry on the 2nd May, 1957, addressed to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government reveals that no town is now using this method.

In considering adopting this method, the following factors must be borne in mind :-

- (1) Type of barge - power driven or towed by tug. Number of crew.
- (2) Capacity in relation to tonnage to be disposed.
- (3) Loading arrangements, and bad weather storage.
- (4) Distance to disposal area, and depth of sea - 22 fathoms minimum.
- (5) Direction of current, and fouling of beaches.
- (6) Interference with trawling and fishing, if any.
- (7) Approval of Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food required.
- (8) Cost in comparison with other methods.

The opinion is held that this method should not be entertained at Holyhead, despite the difficulties of obtaining agreement on a suitable site for controlled tipping.

A new Tipmaster Angledozer was bought during the year and went into service on the 27th May, 1957, firstly for a period of eight weeks on a temporary site destined for use by Newsome's Fair, before taking over from the old Angledozer at Penbonc Tip.

The income from waste paper salvage was as follows :-

Waste paper : 57 tons 16 cwts 3 qrs. - £433. 15. 10d.

This tonnage was collected from business premises only, and the Paper Mills again restricted their acceptance of waste paper on a quota basis.

The new Karrier Dual Tip Refuse Vehicle of 18 cubic yard capacity went into service on the 1st July, 1957, and as the vehicle employs the principle of self-trimming of refuse by gravity compression, it was possible to reduce the number of loaders by one.

The Refuse Collection Team is composed of driver and four men and the total sick leave for the year amounted to seven weeks spread over all members of the team, four of whom put in a full year. The Refuse Tip labour force of one Angledozer Driver was on sick leave for five weeks.

The number of houses serviced each week for night soil collection was 95 and this public health service was maintained throughout the year without incident.

DUSTBIN SERVICE

During the year 2 cu. ft. capacity Dreadnought Bins were bought as follows :-

330 bins at a cost of	-	605. 5. 3.
<u>180 bins at a cost of</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>299. 4. 8.</u>
518 bins at a cost of	-	<u>£904. 9. 11.</u>

The rapid development of the Morawelon Housing Estate made it necessary to make special provision, and the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was obtained to purchase 330 bins for general Housing Estate distribution, the cost to be charged to the Housing Revenue Account.

WATER SUPPLY

Even though the Council is not now the Water Authority for the area, complaints are received and accepted as a Public Health Authority, for transmission to the County Water Department. The complaints fall broadly into two main categories, to do with deficient, and tainted or discoloured supply. There is also always the abiding interest in the condition and sufficiency of the water supply at food premises.

The County Public Health Inspector took 196 samples of the piped water supply in Holyhead, at 29 sampling points, and the Public Health Laboratory classified them as follows :-

<u>Class I</u>	<u>Class II</u>	<u>Class III</u>	<u>Class IV</u>
160	9	18	9

According to the Public Health Laboratory, Class I results are satisfactory, Class II results are not quite up to standard for chlorinated water, Class III results are suspicious and unsatisfactory for chlorinated water, and Class IV results are unsatisfactory for a non-chlorinated piped supply.

HOUSING

Two Public Local Inquiries into applications for confirmation of the Millbank Gardens Clearance Order and the Trearddur Square Compulsory Purchase Order respectively were held. The officials were placed in an embarrassing and untenable position in seeking to justify the action of the Council, which was contrary to their

own professional opinion, in excluding Nos. 1 and 2 Millbank Gardens from the Order, but confirmation of the Order was obtained respecting the ten houses. The Minister was unable to confirm the Trearddur Square Compulsory Purchase Order, holding on a technical point, despite the submission of the officials to the contrary, that the Order did not include the necessary minimum number of two houses.

The problem of derelict houses in Clearance Areas caused concern, particularly in the Foundry Street Area and the Moulton Street Area where forty-two of the sixty-two derelict condemned houses are found. The Council is legally entitled to enter and demolish the buildings and sell the material, and recover the outstanding residual expenditure as a simple contract debt from the owners. The Council has been reluctant to adopt this course in view of the difficulty of recovering the expenditure, preferring to exercise pressure on the owners to fulfil their statutory obligation under the Orders.

In November, 1957, the Council declared five Clearance Areas involving 119 houses, and made two Compulsory Purchase Orders to secure the land for housing development.

The Five Year Slum Clearance Programme, as approved by the Minister for the period 1955/60 envisages dealing with 337 houses, and the Twenty Year Programme involves an estimated number of 796 houses.

Housing action taken, involving 1,179 visits is summarised in the Ministry's prescribed form :-

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES
MINISTRY FORM P.13 (Housing)

PART A. Houses Demolished

<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displacements</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	119	43

<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displacements</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	6	2

PART B. Unfit Houses Closed

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
Closed in pursuance of an under-taking given by owners.	2	5	2

PART C. Unfit Houses made Fit and Defects Remedied

	<u>Number of Houses</u>
(a) Informal Action	122
(b) Formal Action	Nil

PART D. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use

	<u>Number of Houses</u>	<u>Number of Dwellings</u>
Retained for temporary accommodation.	1	1

The new Rent Act, 1957, came into operation during the year, and during the six months ending 31st December, 1957, twenty-two applications for certificates of disrepair were considered, and the Council decided to issue certificates in each case, but it was not necessary to issue any due to informal consultations with the owners.

In this connection it is pointed out that a notice of increase will be void if it is served at a time when the premises are in a Clearance Area; or there is a Demolition Order or Closing Order on the premises; or the premises are subject to certain other statutory action under the Housing Act or Public Health Acts.

Three applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, were approved and the work of installing bathrooms satisfactorily completed.

OVERCROWDING

No reliable statistical data is available respecting the degree and extent of statutory overcrowding in terms of the Housing Act, 1957, but the opinion is confidently expressed that overcrowding in any of its recognised manifestations is brought to the notice of the Council sooner or later.

PROVISION OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

The position is summarised as follows :-

Premises	<u>3 Bedrooms</u>		<u>2 Bedrooms</u>	
	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
By Council	29	195	-	6
Private Enterprise	4	1	2	3

The rate of completion of Council Houses during the last seven years is as follows :-

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Council Houses	70	14	20	25	42	29	201

The much debated Morawelon Housing Estate became a pleasant but overdue reality; and time has already mellowed the bitter primary dissension on this project of 166 houses of non-traditional construction. Time will also prove or dis-prove some of the original fears regarding the use of this site for this purpose, and also the wisdom or otherwise of the method of construction adopted at a cost per house that was higher than the slower but more proven traditional methods of the locality.

The maximum number of houses in the minimum time was certainly achieved as the first four houses were occupied on the 4th March, 1957 some eight months after the ceremonial turf-cutting by F. Blaise Gillie, Esq., Under Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Cardiff, on the 17th July, 1956. In fact during March, 1957 a total of twenty-two houses were occupied which, as will be observed, is more than the total number of houses completed by the Council during each of the years 1952 and 1953. All the 166 houses were completed and let in a period of twenty weeks.

This tremendous achievement in approximately twelve months enabled the Council to reduce its housing problem, in terms of general need, within manageable proportions. For a limited period all people who would accept houses at Morawelon, secured tenancies, without the Council using any restrictive principle in selection.

A new feature in estate development was also witnessed at Ffordd Wynfa, where the natural contour characteristics of the site were exploited to provide a delightfully quiet backwater of mixed types of accommodation in close proximity to the town centre. This estate consists of 2 two bedroomed bungalows, 4 two bedroomed ground floor flats, 4 three bedroomed parlour type maisonettes on 1st and 2nd floors, and 4 three bedroomed terrace houses.

HOUSING ESTATES

The Chief Financial Officer summarises the financial position of the Estates at the end of the year as follows :-

<u>No. of Dwellings</u>	<u>Tenants in Arrear</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Type of Accommodation</u>	<u>Total Weekly Rental</u>	<u>Amount of Arrears</u>	<u>%</u>
62	13	21	Temporary Hses.	90. 3. 2.	38.17. 3.	42
701	149	21	Permanent Hses.	1,083.17. 4.	359.18. 2.	33
763	162	21%		£1,174. 0. 4.	£398.15. 5.	34%

The withdrawal of Government Subsidy to defray the cost of building houses to meet the general needs of the area did not stop the project to build twenty-four houses at Cae Tom, and these were initially let at the economic rent of £2. 10.10. per week, and the demand for this type of house has just about balanced the supply at any given time.

The Housing Application Register contained 117 live applications from residents within the urban area at the end of the year, as compared with 113 at the end of 1956.

Applicants, for Council Houses, and for transfers on the Housing Estates, are visited in their homes as found necessary, in order to form an opinion of the conditions at the premises, and some 702 interviews arose in this connection. Each Council House as it becomes vacant on change of tenancy is inspected and 94 inspections were made for this purpose.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The work is summarised as follows :-

<u>No. of Premises with Choked Drains</u>	<u>No. of Notices</u>	<u>Drains Cleared or Repaired</u>
165	165	165

This essential but unpleasant service is undertaken by the Council as re-chargeable private work, and in a few cases the charges are disputed and finally written off as irrecoverable being individually small accounts.

592 visits were made in connection with drainage and sewerage inspection and maintenance.

On the 25th September, 1956, a Public Inquiry was held into the proposed West Holyhead Joint Sewerage Scheme as prepared by the Engineering Consultants, and in due course it was announced that the Scheme as prepared was not acceptable to the Ministry without further investigation, and the matter is still under consideration by the Joint Sewerage Committee.

One of the resolutions at the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors dealt with the sea discharge of sewage in the following terms :-

"That this Conference requests H.M. Government to initiate research to ascertain :-

(a) the extent of public health hazards associated with discharge of sewage and sewage effluent to water courses and the sea.

(b) an efficient method of sterilising sewage effluent."

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The work summarised below involved 183 visits to premises.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>Provided or Repaired</u>
Defective W.C. cisterns.	4	4	4
Defective W.C. pans.	6	6	6
Defective closet pails.	2	2	2
Lacking W.C. cisterns.	1	1	Nil
Defective W.C. structures	3	3	3

FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the area may be classified in the following general categories :-

Meat	- 13	Fried Fish & Chips	- 5	Wet Fish	- 3
Bakehouses	- 10	Licensed Premises	- 24	Greengrocery	- 5
Cafes and Restaurants	- 15	Confectionery &		Grocery and	
		Tobacco.	- 19	Provisions	- 49

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :-

Ice Cream Hot Mix Method	:	1	Sausage Preparation	:	12
Ice Cream Wrapped Pre-packed					
Retailers	:	38			

There are no dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54.

Unsound food was examined at 30 premises and 80 visits were made for this purpose, and 256 visits were made to 65 premises for observation purposes, and to advise on compliance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The indoor sanitary accommodation was improved at one Licensed Premises where separate provision of water closet and urinal was obtained, and the basement kitchen used for catering was remodelled more in accord with modern requirements. One meat trader's establishment was completely renovated and a new branch meat shop opened by another firm of multiple traders. Another meat trader installed a second refrigerator to deal with his business, whilst minor repair work was undertaken at another premises. A local provision firm carried out extensive alterations at one premises and re-opened as a modern store. Another firm of multiple provision merchants were obliged to undertake some expensive repair work to their warehouse accommodation, and another local dealer had to provide additional warehouse space. A patented electrical fly destroyer was installed in one provision store, and it is claimed to be effective. Improvements were also completed at one cafe premises.

Attention was given to fifteen choked drains. Rat infestation was treated at thirteen premises and mice were dealt with at two, and ants at one.

ICE CREAM CONTROL

In the tables below, details are given of the results of testing 131 samples of Ice Cream submitted to the Public Health Laboratory during the period June - September, 1957. There was one local manufacturer using the Hot Mix Method. There were thirty-eight non-manufacturing retailers supplied by seven wholesale manufacturers operating on a national or regional basis, who retailed wrapped pre-packed ice cream only.

Manufacturing retailers

<u>Dealer</u>	<u>Samples</u>	<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
A	15	100%	-	-	-

Manufacturing Wholesalers - Seven Wholesalers

7 Dealers.	112	89.29%	8.93%	0.89%	0.89%
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The Public Health Laboratory Service recommends that owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results on any single sample. It is suggested that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, and not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

Itinerant Retailers

One itinerant retailer operating from premises outside the County was observed within the district with fair regularity during last year, and during this year, two such retailers operated in the district. It is extremely difficult to control this type of retailer due to his mobility, but it was possible to obtain random samples as outlined below :-

<u>Retailer</u>	<u>Samples</u>	<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
A	2	1	1	-	-
B	2	1	-	-	1

The number of samples are insufficient for the purpose of basing a considered opinion as to the hygienic quality, but the fact that a highly perishable commodity which is most susceptible to adverse external conditions is being sold a long way from the retailer's base after being in transport for anything up to four hours, indicates the necessity for greater attention in the future as this type of sale develops in the area.

The above results indicate that the hygienic standard of previous years is being maintained and improved upon. It is particularly pleasing to observe that the only local manufacturing retailer now operating in the town achieved a 100% Grade 1 result during the last four years.

Seven premises were registered for the retail sale of wrapped pre-packed ice cream under the provisions of Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

MILK CONTROL

During the year 56 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were obtained from seven producers, and only one sample failed to satisfy the prescribed test under the Raw Milk Special Designations Regulations, 1949.

The designated raw milk retailed in the town was sampled and subjected to the biological test for tubercle bacilli contamination, and brucella infection, and was found clear of infection. This involved the taking of seven samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

More improvements were again undertaken at the milk pasteurisation plant.

The Council decided not to take legal proceedings for an apparent contravention of Regulation 26 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, against a retailer who delivered milk in a bottle which was not in a state of thorough cleanliness. The Public Analyst reported that :-

"The inside of the bottle contains a splash of paint $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long by $\frac{1}{8}$ inch across, brownish pink in colour. There are traces of Iron Oxide in the paint, but no traces of harmful metals were present."

A conviction for a similar offence had been obtained in the past against the same retailer.

The County Public Health Inspector took 114 milk samples at the pasteurisation plant and three were found unsatisfactory. Of 114 bottles examined for cleanliness, six rinses were not fully satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS CONTROL

The following samples of food and drugs were obtained in Holyhead by the County Sampling Officer and submitted for examination under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :-

<u>Genuine Samples</u>					
Corned Beef Hash	:	1	Sponge Mixture	:	1
Noodle Soup Mix	:	1	Raspberries in Syrup	:	1
Sausages	:	1	Milk	:	1
Custard Powder	:	1	Ice Cream	:	5
Dessert Gelatine	:	1	Apple & Raspberry Jam	:	1
Table Jelly	:	1	Nutmeg Flavoured Compound	:	1
Pure Egg Macaroni	:	1	Pure Coffee	:	1
Pure Natural Honey	:	1	Pickles	:	1
Butter Cake Sandwich	:	1	Cod Liver Oil	:	1

Mustard : 1

Forty seven samples of milk intended for consumption within the urban area were informally examined at the County Council's Laboratory, Llangefni, and none found so deficient in fat, or solids not fat, or containing added water, as to warrant the submission of a formal sample for examination by the Public Analyst.

FOOD INSPECTION

Public Slaughterhouse

It will be seen from the appended comparative statement that the same level of income was maintained for 1956 and 1957, and at a reduced expenditure in 1957, as the services of the full time Slaughterhouse Attendant were discontinued on the 23rd June, 1956.

<u>QUARTER</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
MARCH	115. 7. 0.	89. 8. 10.	56. 4. 2.
JUNE	94. 14. 5.	47. 8. 8.	71. 11. 0.
SEPTEMBER	163. 17. 0.	117. 15. 4.	116. 9. 4.
DECEMBER	<u>123. 18. 6.</u>	<u>86. 9. 5.</u>	<u>99. 14. 4.</u>
	<u>£497. 16. 11.</u>	<u>£341. 2. 3.</u>	<u>£343. 18. 10.</u>

During the year 540 visits were made to the Public Slaughterhouse, and 162 visits to the British Transport Commission's Cattle Yard, and the record of meat unfit is as follows :-

Carcasses and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	CATTLE	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
Number killed	305	25	-	2,077	639
Number killed (Ex Eire)	501	4	-	346	2
Total	806	29	-	2,623	641
Number inspected	806	29	-	2,623	641
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	-	-	5	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	424	10	-	174	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	53.2%	34.4%	-	6.8%	2.3%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	83	-	-	-	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.7%	-	-	-	1.1%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

WEIGHTS OF UNFIT MEAT

CY - Cattle Yard

SH - Slaughterhouse

	<u>BEASTS</u>		<u>SHEEP</u>		<u>PIGS</u>	
	<u>CY</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>CY</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>CY</u>	<u>SH</u>
Tuberculosis	2,452	100	-	-	-	99
Dropsy	-	-	71	69	-	-
Parasites	-	80	163	235	-	6
Cirrhosis	2,585	2,277	-	-	-	-
Injuries	961	48	32	-	-	-
Cysticercosis	25	-	-	-	-	-
Abscesses	-	20	-	-	-	6
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	9
Hydronephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pleurisy/Peritonitis	-	-	-	-	-	74
Necrosis	-	-	-	-	-	35
	6,023	2,525	266	304	-	230lbs

Total Weight for the year : 4 tons 3 cwt 2 qrs.

OTHER UNSOUND FOOD

Milk..... 45 $\frac{1}{4}$ pts. (29 tins) Meat..... 229lbs (46 tins)

Fruit 184 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.(148 tins) Vegetables..... 94 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs (85 tins)

Fish..... 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs (8 tins)

1 lb.	.....	Coffee	.....	Mould
3 cwt	.....	Wet Fish	.....	Decomposition
4 cwt 1 qtr. 2 lbs	.....	Bacon	.....	-do-
	.....	Ice Lollies	.....	-do-
12lbs.	.....	Sausage	.....	Sour
1qtr.	.....	Danish Butter	.....	Rancid
1 cwt 12lbs.	.....	Beef	.....	Bone Taint
2 cwt 2 qtrs.	.....	Dutch Pears	.....	Brown Heart
3 tons 3 cwt.	.....	Potatoes	.....	Blight

The method of disposal of condemned food is by staining meat and like products with a green dye prior to its removal to the processing plant by the haulage contractor. Tinned goods are perforated and buried in the Refuse Tip in conjunction with other waste matter. As the occasion arises agreement has been reached that unsound potatoes are diverted for pig feeding.

A meat pie prepared at one of the local school canteens, was examined at the Public Health Laboratory as it had an offensive smell. The Bacteriologist reported that the offensive smell was caused by organisms normally found in excreta and seldom in cooked dishes. The history of this case is interesting as demonstrating, rather vividly, the oft repeated dictum that food prepared on one day should not, be reheated for serving on the following day in view of the danger of food poisoning. The pie was not very appetising due to the offensive smell betraying a perhaps harmless condition, but such warning is not usual with food contaminated with food poisoning organisms. The meat for this meat pie was delivered at the canteen on Thursday morning, cooked in the afternoon, and reheated on Friday morning preparatory to serving the mid-day meal.

Synthetic Cream, obtained in bulk from the Manufacturers, and used for confectionery purposes in a local bakehouse was found to have an offensive taste and smell, which the Public Analyst reported were caused by harmless traces of disinfectant. The manufacturers gave the source of contamination as a fault in the plant cleansing technique which they undertook to amend. The consequences, under other circumstances, might have been serious, but in this case, whilst a technical breach of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 had been committed, no action was considered necessary.

The opinion, that alleged unsound ham, butter, cheese, grapefruit were fit for human consumption, whilst not always in the most attractively palatable condition, was not always received with beaming enthusiasm by the harassed food trader, as a credit note for the goods, surrendered on a Condemnation Certificate would have saved a lot of energetic sales talk.

A complaint by an aggrieved purchaser ^{about} black-pudding was investigated, but as the report of the Public Analyst was inconclusive, being only positive on the growth of moulds, no further action was possible, but the remainder of the consignment was immediately withdrawn from sale by the vendor, as a precautionary measure, when the customer's dis-satisfaction was made known.

It is always difficult to deal with foreign bodies in food as the vendor does not recklessly wish on his customers a loaf with a bandage concealed in it, or brawn with a fly in hibernation, but this kind of thing does happen, and the fact that the public are reporting these incidents suggests a welcome and growing food hygiene conscience.

One stall holder at the Market opened up as a specialist in cheap-jack sale of damaged and otherwise substandard tinned and proprietary branded foodstuffs. This gave some concern as the food appeared to be sold at well below the normal retail selling price, and despite a persistent, detailed but discreet, examination of goods in process of sale, no unsound food was detected. The undoubted fitness of the food was amply demonstrated Saturday after Saturday as satisfied clients came clamouring back for more.

The Public Slaughterhouse was formally de-requisitioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 30th June, 1957, after being held by them since the beginning of 1940. The Council negotiated new and more advantageous rental terms with the owners, and will continue as occupiers.

The concern of the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors with slaughterhouse standards was demonstrated by the following resolution :-

"That this Conference, appreciating the need to secure the highest possible standard of hygiene in slaughterhouses, notes the statement of policy contained in the recent White Paper on Slaughterhouses and urges H.M. Government to introduce the necessary legislation to implement this policy at the earliest possible moment."

LICENSED SLAUGHTERMEN

There were sixteen persons holding licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933/54, but of this number only five were slaughtering regularly during the year.

IMPORTED FOOD AND PORT HEALTH CONTROL

A complete check was exercised on all landings of imported food from the Republic of Ireland. This work involves alternate Sunday duty by the Public Health Inspectors and the following comparative table shows the reduction in sailings :-

	<u>No. of Ships Manifests Scrutinised</u>	<u>No. of Notifications to receiving</u>
		<u>Local Authorities</u>
1955	575	759
1956	419	1,848
1957	388	1,882

Amount of Shipping Entering the District During the Year

<u>Ships</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Net Reg. Tons</u>
From Foreign Ports	4	532
Coastwise	1,116	1,530,663
Fishing Vessels	301	-

Principal Ports from which ships arrive

Cargo Vessels	:	Dublin, North Wall.
Passenger Vessels	:	Dun Laoghaire.

Character of Shipping and Trade During the Year

Passenger Traffic

	<u>No. of Passengers</u>	
	<u>Inwards</u>	<u>Outwards</u>
Cargo Service	725	415
Mail Service	439,103	415,601

Passenger Mail Traffic

	<u>To Dun Laoghaire</u>				<u>From Dun Laoghaire</u>			
	1956		1957		1956		1957	
	Number	Tons	Number	Tons	Number	Tons	Number	Tons
Letter Post	119,612	1,495	116,090	1,451	57,200	715	60,246	753
Parcel Post	255,606	6,390	237,906	5,947	100,390	2,510	96,432	2,413
Newspapers	135,424	1,922	129,191	1,965	17,156	229	17,366	225

Cargo Traffic

Tonnages divided into Commodities

<u>Commodities</u>	<u>Imported Tons</u>		<u>Exported Tons</u>	
	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Coal, Coke and Patent Fuel	-	-	12,122	12,479
Building & Road Making Materials	19	-	3,208	2,120
Timber	32	568	-	-
Machinery	-	-	2,662	1,449
Vehicles & Parts	-	-	2,027	910
Iron and Steel	1,248	250	9,869	7,266
Oil and Spirit (Mineral & Motor)	-	-	8,166	8,365
Woollen Goods	-	-	966	514
Raw Wool	2,093	1,950	-	-
Other Textiles	-	-	1,442	1,029
Chemicals, Chemical Fertilisers	-	-	9,818	10,662
Fish	2,149	2,152	-	-
Fruit and Vegetables	8	10	-	-
Grain, Flour & Milling Offals	1	-	-	-
Other Food and Provisions	23,715	18,525	-	-
Other Commodities	80,071	90,446	43,537	37,178
	<u>109,336</u>	<u>113,901</u>	<u>93,817</u>	<u>81,972</u>

Grand Totals

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Imported Tonnage	123,543	109,336	113,901
Exported Tonnage	<u>115,412</u>	<u>93,817</u>	<u>81,972</u>
	<u>238,955</u>	<u>203,153</u>	<u>195,873</u>

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Livestock

	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Asses</u>	<u>Dogs</u>	<u>Goats</u>	<u>Giraffe</u>	<u>Monkeys</u>
Export	1,442	-	-	-	-	361	-	-	-
Import	2,723	158,649	13,581	170	133	1,997	17	1	2

UNSOUND IMPORTED FOOD

3 cwts.....Winkles..... Decomposition

